



## **BIZ KID\$**

### **Episode 305: "Escape the Box"**

#### **Episode Synopsis**

**What do you do when opportunity knocks? Learn how to recognize and act on new opportunities in your life and to be creative in problem solving.**

#### **Contents**

Biz Terms (Vocabulary)  
Equipment and Materials Needed  
Day One: Lesson Plan  
Day Two: Lesson Plan  
Family Activity Sheet

#### **Biz Kid\$ Curriculum Package #305**



## Episode 305: "Escape the Box"

### Biz Terms

- |                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. brainstorming            | 13. niche       |
| 2. business plan            | 14. obstacle    |
| 3. chaotic                  | 15. opportunity |
| 4. conventional thinking    | 16. persistence |
| 5. daydream                 | 17. "pitch it"  |
| 6. edit                     | 18. product     |
| 7. energy efficient         | 19. prosperous  |
| 8. entrepreneur             | 20. prototype   |
| 9. environmentally friendly | 21. solution    |
| 10. experiment              | 22. strategy    |
| 11. innovative thinking     | 23. trend       |
| 12. mentor                  | 24. vision      |

### Suggestions for using Biz Terms include:

- Have students research and write dictionary definitions.
- Discuss the use of these terms in the episode of Biz Kid\$.
- Have students construct sentences, write personal financial goals, create a financial journal entry, or a math word problem.
- Have students write paragraphs, stories, dialogs, "raps", or lyrics.

**Have a "new idea"? Create a business plan incorporating your idea.**



## **Episode 305: "Escape the Box"**

### **Equipment/Materials/Prep needed:**

#### **Day One and Day Two:**

- TV or projection system
- DVD Player
- DVD of Episode 302
- Paper, pens, and/or pencils for each student
- Chalkboard and chalk OR Dry-Erase Board and Dry-Erase markers OR Large chart paper and a set of colored markers for the teacher.

#### **Day Two only:**

- Student copies of the "Biz Terms" Sheet
- Student copies of the "Family Activity Sheet"
- Drawing paper for each student if doing the Season Shopping Calendar Or the "Decorate Your Room for Less Challenge".

#### **Preparation to be done prior to session:**

- Check to be sure needed equipment is available and operational prior to the sessions.
- Gather listed materials.
- Make an appropriate number of copies of the "Biz Terms" Sheet and the "Family Activity Sheet".



## Episode 305 "Escape the Box"

### Day One Previewing Questions:

- Do you ever daydream and think of unusual ideas?
- Are you stuck in conventional thinking, or are you innovative?
- Have you ever recognized a need and come up with a solution?

Today's episode of "Biz Kid\$", titled "Escape the Box", will guide you in recognizing an opportunity; help you know what to do when opportunity knocks; and will introduce you to a group of young entrepreneurs or "Biz Kids" who have solved problems and created their own businesses in the process. Perhaps their stories will spark something in your imagination, so let's watch the episode now.

### Let's watch Episode 305: "Escape the Box"

Activity to follow viewing the program together:

Lead a brief class discussion of the products or services they recall from this episode. List their ideas so that everyone can see them. Then have the class decide which of these things they would be most likely to purchase or use.

Save the results for the next session.



## Episode 305: "Escape the Box"

### Day Two

### Review and Connect with the Previous Session

Episode 305, "Escape the Box", is all about what to do when opportunity knocks. It's also about recognizing new opportunities in your life, and being creative in problem solving.

Innovative thinking is a powerful force in business, and goes beyond conventional thinking to solve problems in unique ways. We met the following young entrepreneurs who are creative thinkers and problem solvers.

- 1. Max, an innovator for the people, who designed products to solve problems, such as the booster step with handle; the walk and wait cane; the carpal cushion; and the "Home Dome" to shelter homeless people. Max's philosophy is, "If you have the ability to help others, you have the responsibility to do so."**
- 2. Amiya, the dancing queen, created her own business, a pink dance studio inside a converted bus that drives to different locations to teach her students. She was eleven when she "thought outside the box" and went through the steps to create a business. She learned about insurance, loans, patents, getting supplies, and doing whatever it took to succeed. Her motto is, "Never say can't!"**



3. **Adrian, the basketball-loving Biz Kid, invented "All Net", a bag for carrying basketballs that is a net. Along with ideas from friends and family, he developed his own way to market the product. Other entrepreneurs would come to him with questions so he established a program called "Dreams Are Contagious" to help other young entrepreneurs develop their ideas.**
  
4. **Gabe and Jake created "Rockin' with Bach and the Gang", a board game about classical music that plays music using an "RFID" (Radio Frequency Identification Device) in the game cards. In creating and improving their product, they held focus groups; talked with teachers, parents, and friends; test-played the game with different people; listened to suggestions from others; and sought mentors to help them in development and marketing. Their motto is, "If you can think it, you can do it."**
  
5. **Emily, the movie geek who writes, directs, and produces zombie movies. She has to use what she has to make the films; for her, failure was not an option.**

These Biz Kids shared some common traits. Let's take a few minutes and see how many traits and behaviors you can list.

*Teacher, please list students' ideas so they can continue to see them and refer to them during the session.*

**Suggestions might include:**

- Write down ideas
- Brainstorm
- Identify a need
- Look for a creative solution
- Rest your brain for a while by riding a bike or doing a different activity
- Draw pictures of your ideas
- Talk to friends and family to refine your ideas



- Seek adult mentors
- Write letters
- Keep trying
- Enter contests for new inventions
- Make a prototype
- Be persistent
- Ask questions
- Day dream
- Listen to your intuition
- Expect challenges
- Trust what you know
- Think of a problem as an opportunity
- Spot new trends

### **Activity Suggestions:**

Distribute blank drawing paper and pencils to students and ask them to think of things that spark their imaginations. They are going to spend about five minutes just drawing their ideas on paper, as many or as few as they wish. If they can't think of something, ask them to draw one of the inventions they saw on the Biz Kids episode and add something to it, or change it in some way.

Next, have students share their drawings/ideas with each other in small groups. As each student shares, allow positive comments from others in the group, or suggestions /ideas of ways to improve the "invention" or "product."

***Learning to accept suggestions is a valuable skill in becoming successful!***

Finally, give students fresh drawing paper to refine their prototype, and have them write about it and how the product will fill a need and perhaps be a



creative solution. They can name their product and have a large group sharing time.

***Remind students that all ideas are worth considering, not to "edit" their thinking during the imagination phase.***

In closing, encourage students to look at problems as possible opportunities for them to be creative problem solvers; to think "**outside the box**"!

**Distribute the "Family Activity Sheet" and the "Biz Terms Sheet" for Episode 305.**







## Episode 305 "Escape the Box"

# Family Activity Sheet

### Episode 305 Synopsis:

**What do you do when opportunity knocks? Learn how to recognize and act on new opportunities in your life and to be creative in problem solving.**

### Family Activity Suggestions:

Have a family discussion with your students and ask them to share what they learned from this episode about innovative thinking.

- **Ask them about the inventions the Biz Kids created, and what problems caused them to think of these solutions.**
- **Talk about the value of identifying a need and viewing it as an opportunity to come up with a unique solution.**
- **As a family, see if you can identify a real problem that you can solve together by brainstorming ideas, drawing pictures, making a prototype, or seeking additional help.**

It's important to ask questions, be persistent, and to expect challenges. Don't forget to recognize the important lessons learned from failures! Remember not to get stuck in the **BOX!**

Web sites to explore together:

[www.bizkids.com](http://www.bizkids.com)